
FEHB Program Carrier Letter

Health Maintenance Organizations

U.S. Office of Personnel Management
Office of Insurance Programs

Letter No. 1999 - 033

Date: July, 22, 1999

Fee-for-service [n/a] Experience-rated HMO [28] Community-rated HMO [28]

SUBJECT: Verification of accreditation status

As we finalize the details for our 2000 Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Plans and for our web site, we need to hear from you about your health plan's accreditation status with the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) or the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

If your accreditation status from NCQA or JCAHO has changed or you have been newly accredited since July, 1998, please tell us what your accreditation is and when it was granted. If you have been accredited and that status is due to expire by the end of this year, let us know this too.

Keep in mind that the entity and service area reviewed by NCQA or JCAHO must match the plan product and service area offered through our Program in order to receive recognition in the Guide and on our web site. Accredited plans may display the NCQA or JCAHO seal of accreditation on the front cover of your FEHB brochure, following of course whatever protocol those organizations have established. Additionally, any health plan that has received accreditation from the American Accreditation Healthcare Commission/URAC also may note this on the brochure cover.

If your accreditation status has changed or is set to expire, please let us know by August 13. If we do not hear from you, we will consider the information that was in the 1999 Guide to be correct. Submit your responses to Dean Schleicher at ndschlei@opm.gov or call him at (202) 606-0745.

Sincerely,

(signed)
Frank D. Titus
Assistant Director
for Insurance Programs